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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 ANKARA 001643

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/12/2018
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [SCUL](#) [TU](#)
SUBJECT: TURKEY: CHARITY FUND SCANDAL PROMPTS PM ERDOGAN
BATTLE WITH PRESS TYCOON

REF: ANKARA 1626

Classified By: POL Counselor Daniel O'Grady, reasons 1.4 (b,d)

[1](#)1. (C) SUMMARY. A very public and ugly battle has erupted between Prime Minister Erdogan and the Dogan Group. The conflict dominated the news

It Only Took A Spark

[1](#)2. (SBU) On September 1 the first court case against Deniz Feneri convened in the Frankfurt Regional Court. By September 5, German Prosecutor

[1](#)3. (U) In response, Erdogan publicly charged Dogan with corruption regarding a zoning application for new residences at the Istanbul Hilton. I

Tango with Turkey's Rupert Murdoch

[1](#)4. (C) Dogan Media Holdings owns several mainstream daily newspapers and three major television stations. Although relations between Erdogan &

Erdogan Spokesman on the Media: Feed the Beast or Else

Ankara 00001643 002 of 002

[1](#)5. (C) PM Spokesman Akif Beki contends, "It's a media habit. They want something; they don't get it, so they attack." He defended RTUK's refus

[1](#)6. (SBU) Last fall the editorial stance noticeably shifted at Dogan's flagship newspaper, Hurriyet. The paper became more critical of the gove

Comment

[1](#)7. (C) This battle could be seen as just a very direct and personal fight between two titans. However, coming on the heels of other recent acc

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